

## Message Text

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UNCLAS TEHRAN 2176

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTIO, IR

SUBJ: NATIONAL IRANIAN GAS COMPANY REQUIREMENTS FOR PIPE

1. EMBASSY ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY THE NATIONAL IRANIAN GAS COMPANY (NIGC) IN OVERCOMING APPARENT BOTTLENECKS WITHIN THE US RELATIVE TO NIGC'S ORDERS FOR PIPE. THESE ORDERS, WHICH APPARENTLY ARE OF SEVERAL MONTHS STANDING, ARE FOR TWO JOINT VENTURES IN IRAN INVOLVING AMERICAN COMPANIES: (1) THE KALINGAS PROJECT WHICH IS ALREADY UNDER WAY AND (2) THE NIGC/EL PASO/DISTRIGAS LNG PROJECT. DURING THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE OF THE US/IRAN JOINT COMMISSION NIGC OFFICIALS PLACED CONSIDERABLE EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE OF THE PIPE DELIVERIES TO IRAN'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN THE LNG FIELD AND TO THE SUCCESS OF THE TWO JOINT VENTURES IN QUESTION. NIGC HAS NOW GIVEN US THE DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS. THE EMBASSY HAS INDICATED THAT NEITHER IT NOR THE US GOVERNMENT COULD IN ANY FORMAL WAY UNDERTAKE TO PROCURE NIGC'S REQUIREMENTS INASMUCH AS THIS FELL WITHIN THE DOMAIN OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE UNITED STATES. NONETHELESS, THE EMBASSY HAS SAID THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE MAINTAINS CLOSE CONTACT WITH US PIPE MANUFACTURERS AND THAT COMMERCE WOULD DO WHAT IT COULD TO ACCELERATE PIPE DELIVERIES TO NIGC. GIVEN IMPORTANCE THAT THE USG ATTACHES TO THE US/IRAN JOINT COMMISSION, THE EMBASSY HOPES THAT COMMERCE WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE SOME SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THIS REQUEST. THE PIPE SPECIFICATIONS FOLLOW.

2. PIPE REQUIREMENT FOR NIGC/EL PASO/DISTRIGAS LNG PROJECT CASING REQUIREMENTS FOR TWO WELLS

A. 500 FT 30" O.D. DRIVE PIPE, 157 LB/FT, API-5L, SLIP JOINT

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(WELDED) OR THE EQUIVALENT TYPE OF DRIVE PIPE.

B. 6000 FT 20" O.D. 129.33 LB/FT X-52, 0.625" WALL THICKNESS, BUTTRESS THREAD.

C. 12000 FT 13 3/8" O.D. 77.0 LB/FT, N-80 BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD.

D. 84000 FT 13 3/8" O.D. 98.0 LB/FT, N-80 BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD FOR A TOTAL OF 10,200 FT 13 3/8" CASING.

E. 22000 FT 9 5/8" O.D. 53.5 LB/FT, N-80 PREFERABLY WITH HYDRIL TRIPPLE SEAL THREAD, BUT BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD PROBABLY ACCEPTABLE.

F. 6000 FT 9 5/8" O.D. 53.5 LB/FT, P-110, PREFERABLY WITH HYDRILL TRIPPLE SEAL THREAD BUT BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD PROBABLY ACCEPTABLE, FOR A TOTAL OF 14,000 FT 9 5/8" CASING.

G. 28000 FT 5 1/2" O.D. 23 LB/FT, C 75, PREFERABLY WITH HYDRIL SUPER EU THREAD BUT BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD PROBABLY ACCEPTABLE.

3. PIPE REQUIREMENTS FOR KALINGAS PROJECT. CASING REQUIREMENTS FOR ONE WELL.

A. 250 FT 30" O.D. DRIVE PIPE, 157 LB/FT, API-5L, SLIP JOINT (WELDED) OR THE EQUIVALENT TYPE OF DRIVE PIPE.

B. 3000 FT 20" O.D. 129.33 LB/FT X-52, 0.625" WALL THICKNESS, BUTTRESS THREAD.

C. 6000 FT 13 3/8" O.D. 77.0 LB/FT, N-80 BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD.

D. 4200 FT 13 3/8" O.D. 98.0 LB/FT, N-80 BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD FOR A TOTAL OF 10,200 FT 13 3/8" CASING.

E. 11000 FT 9 5/8" O.D. 53.5 LB/FT, N-80, PREFERABLY WITH HYDRIL TRIPPLE SEAL THREAD, BUT BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD PROBABLY ACCEPTABLE.

F. 3000 FT 9 5/8" O.D. 53.5 LB/FT, P-110, PREFERABLY WITH HYDRILL TRIPPLE SEAL THREAD BUT BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD PROBABLY ACCEPTABLE, FOR A TOTAL OF 14,000 FT 9 5/8" CASING.

G. 14000 FT 5 1/2" O.D. 23 LB/FT, C 75, PREFERABLY WITH HYDRIL SUPER EU THREAD BUT BUTTRESS RANGE 2 THREAD PROBABLY ACCEPTABLE.

4. AMERICAN SUPPLIERS WHO CAN OFFER PRICE QUOTATIONS AND DELIVERY DATES SHOULD COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH HOSSEIN TAHMASSEBI, SENIOR SPECIALIST, PLANNING AND PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT GROUP, NATIONAL IRANIAN GAS COMPANY.

5. THE EMBASSY WOULD MOST APPRECIATE HAVING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE A FAIRLY DETAILED REPORT BY CABLE OF THE RESULTS OF ITS INQUIRIES TO AMERICAN PIPE SUPPLIERS.

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